



COLORADO

**Department of Health Care
Policy & Financing**

Community Living Office
1570 Grant Street
Denver, CO 80203

To: All Stakeholders

From: Michele Craig, Program Services Unit Manager

Date: April 26, 2017

Subject: COMMUNICATION BRIEF- Home and Community Bases Services- for Persons with Developmental Disabilities (HCBS-DD) Waiver Amendment Approval

Purpose: To inform stakeholders of the approval by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) of an amendment to the HCBS-DD waiver.

Background: The Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (the Department) submitted an amendment to CMS on January 18, 2017 to revise the HCBS-DD waiver in the following sections:

Main: Add the state-wide home and community based settings waiver transition plan.

Appendix B-3.a: Revise the unduplicated count to reflect the appropriation from the Colorado General Assembly. The appropriation is an increase in the unduplicated count.

Appendix B-3.c: Revise reserve capacity for 18-21 year old individuals transition, emergency, and deinstitutionalization for nursing facility and ICF/IID based on analysis of enrollment needs.

Appendix B-5: Revise per CMS changes to the waiver application. As of January 1, 2014, states must apply the eligibility and post-eligibility methodologies described in section 1924 of the Social Security Act (the spousal impoverishment statute) to all married individuals seeking eligibility under the category described at 42 C.F.R. §435.217 (the 217 category). This requirement applies to all new 1915(c) waivers. The revision modifies the terms of this waiver to conform its provisions to section 1924 if the 217 category is covered under the waiver.

Appendix C-5.1.2.: Add information on how residential and non-residential settings in the waiver comply with federal HCBS Settings requirements at 42 CFR 441.301(c)(4)-(5).



Appendix I-1: Clarify how the Department conducts post-payment reviews.

Appendix I-2.d: Clarify how the Department conducts billing validation.

Appendix I Quality Improvement: Add a performance measure to provide evidence that the Department pays claims only for services rendered.

Appendix J-1 and 2: Revise projections for waiver years 3-5 to more accurately reflect trends. The Colorado General Assembly approved a 1.7% rate increase effective July 1, 2015. Estimates for waiver years 1-2 were not revised in this amendment.

Procedure or Information: CMS approved the amendment on April 3, 2017 with an effective date of July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2019. This amendment adds the HCBS waiver specific transition plan to the waiver, increases the unduplicated count, revises the point in time cap to more accurately align with trends, revised the reserved capacity process to better support those that need access to services urgently, modified the post eligibility treatment of income methodology to comply with section 1924 of the 217 category covered under the waiver, added additional information to the post payment review process and increased rates 1.7 % within the approved waiver rate methodology.

The Department will add a Performance Measure in Appendix I Quality Improvement in the next waiver amendment to address the number and percent of paid claims within a representative sample with adequate documentation that services were rendered.

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